

Te Marua

your place

March 2019

The Official Newsletter for the Wellington Naturist Club Inc.



What's on at WNC

Each Saturday Evening **BYO BBQ Dinner**
Gather at the BBQ at 5pm
BYO Food & Drinks

Each Sunday Afternoon **Afternoon Tea** 3pm
Listen for the bell & meet on the deck.

March

Sat 30th **Club BYO BBQ**

April

Sun 14th **Club Committee Meeting** 1pm
(all members welcome to attend)

Fri 19th – Mon 22nd **Easter Weekend**

Sat 20th **Final BBQ of the season**
Committee will provide salads

Sun 21st **Easter Egg Hunt**

Sun 28th **Club Annual General Meeting** 2pm

May

Sun 12th **Club Committee Meeting** 1pm
(all members welcome to attend)

Sat 25th **"Curry In A Hurry" Club Dinner**

Sun 26th **Club Working Bee**
Meet at the Hall at 9am. Remember to sign in.

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From The Chair

Where has the year gone? Already we are preparing for the AGM and I know you are all waiting to put your nominations in for the committee positions. Your present committee have been working extremely well together but some of us/them would like a break and fresh ideas are always welcome. Keep in mind that I have been your president since **30 October 2011** so I think I deserve a rest.

Brent H our accommodation and visitor manager has done a great job this year but alas all good things must come to an end. Brent heads back to Australia on 5th April so Richard, Constance and Eru will be taking over for the rest of the year. Hopefully we will get Brent back for the next season? Brent has also been doing the membership and promotions portfolio. He has done such a great job that we are running out of tent and campervan sites. To try and help this situation we are opening up both dells, the one behind the lower Petanque court and the one above the main ablution block, for camping. These now have vehicle access so campers can park their cars next to their tents. They will also be great for day visitors.

Today, 13th March, we got a tractor in with the big mulcher attachment and trimmed along the driveways and hedge in the middle of the golf course. Sorry Jeff if we have damaged some of your greens. This will save us a heap of time at working bees and as numbers attending them are way down was a no brainer. With larger campervans and caravans coming onto our grounds this will make access much easier.

Some years ago we had a competition to name the cabins. Judith M won this competition with Tui, Fantail, Kereru and Kowhai. We are now naming them as such. Sorry this has taken so long.

Great to see most caravans and sites have been tidied up. Some vans could do with a paint job. Your club has spent good time and money to make the facilities top standard so we don't want untidy sites and vans spoiling the look.

There has been some debate over the planting of hedges but now that some planting has been done I hope members can see what we are trying to achieve. Approval was given to purchase some more hedges to finish this job. Don't worry we will not plant hedges without the approval of affected site owners. In about 2 years the difference should be noticeable.

Our rather large front gate post was struck and broken off. Only a large vehicle could have done this but as yet no one has owned up to it?? This is frustrating as all the gate electronics are on and in this post. Please if you damage something let a committee person know so we can remedy the situation.

We are now spending some more efforts into improving the WiFi around the ground. Parklane should now have WiFi and FAL is still being worked on. We just need to show patience while we work on this.

OK that's enough from me.

Ken

Invoices for the 2019 / 2020 financial year

Invoices for the 2019 / 2020 financial year are being sent out on or around the 20th of March, with payment due on or by the 30th of April 2019, with the exception of those who are currently on automatic payment arrangements with the club.

Membership fees are \$270 per person for the year (1 April 2019 – 31 March 2020) and site fees are \$340 per site for the same period. These rates remain unchanged from this current financial year.

If members would like a current statement please contact Helen Preference is to email, but will post out if requested.

If you have changed your contact details or are unsure if the club has your current details, please contact a committee member.

Annual General Meeting

Wellington Naturist Club's Annual General Meeting will be held at 2.00pm on Sunday 28th of April 2019 in the club hall. Nomination & Remit forms are attached with this newsletter. **Don't sit back and let others do all the work. Put yourself forward for nomination.**

All Members of whatever class of membership may attend general meetings, but only financial Full Members and Life Members are entitled to vote.

Furniture for the "Nude Deck"

The committee is still considering options for furniture to grace our wonderful deck. Due to sales at the end of summer, it may be a good time to look at purchasing items soon. The committee would like to invite club members to submit proposals of what they envisage would work. Feel free to send any images and costs by April 12th 2019 to the secretary@wellingtonnaturists.co.nz for discussion at the next committee meeting. Please bear in mind that whatever furniture ends up on the deck will need to be durable and stay out there all year around. We don't want anything that will blow around in the wind or have to store anything inside the hall.

First Aid Kit Locations

The committee would like to let all club members know that there are four first aid kits on the grounds. Please familiarise yourself with the locations and look for the signage:

In the alcove of the Main Hall

In the drawer at FAL shower block

In the drawer at Midlands shower block

In the Camp Kitchen

Please note that the AED/Defibrillator is also located in the Camp Kitchen.

Go Natural Products

Donna Miller, the President of the NZ Naturist Federation is looking for expressions of interest among our club members, who may be interested in looking after the *gonatural* products cupboard. The Federation has not found anyone to take over this position since Nick and Wendy resigned from the role. It would not involve a huge amount of time but you would need to be responsible for receiving and dispatching orders plus keeping an eye on the stock. If you are interested please contact Donna at president@nznf.nz or +64 274 800 052 to discuss.

Area Name Changes

We have a number of new members to the club which has resulted in some discussion about the names of our camping areas. The committee would like to invite club members to come up with some new "fun" names to reflect our changing times, that we can put to the vote at our upcoming AGM. The areas up for re-naming would be: Lowlands, Midlands and Highlands. Please submit your ideas in writing to Constance at onepurplefish@gmail.com by April 12th 2019.

Social Club Dinners and Working Bees

The committee would like to remind club members that the monthly Winter working bees will recommence on May 26th 2019.

To our newer members, the working bees usually take place on the last Sunday of the month. It is preceded by a social club dinner on the Saturday night with lunch and afternoon tea provided on the Sunday of the working bee. We encourage all club members to come along to help maintain our wonderful grounds and enjoy the community spirit.

So with that in mind, the social committee is looking for some fun ideas for our forthcoming winter gatherings. Please contact Constance with any suggestions to onepurplefish@gmail.com or if you would like to help out for any of the events.

On the calendar so far is:

Easter Weekend April 19th-22nd

Sat April 20th - The committee would like to invite members to the final BBQ of the season. The committee will provide the salads.

Sun April 21st - Chris and Rob will be returning to run their annual Easter Egg Hunt.

May 25th - Constance will host an Indian "Curry in a Hurry" Dinner. She promises not to make the dishes too spicy! Please RSVP no later than Wed 22nd May to onepurplefish@gmail.com or +64 211 237 577. Cost \$20pp

June 29th - Shirley will be hosting her amazing annual mid-winter Xmas dinner. RSVP and cost TBC. Ken will be bringing his SKY card for the Round 1 Rugby 1/4 Final that night.

July 27th – TBC Rugby NZ vs South Africa, time?

Someone mentioned a "build your own hamburger (served with fries) & create your own ice cream sundae" if anyone wanted to take that one on?

August 24th TBC Any volunteers to host a dinner/event?

September 28th TBC Any volunteers to host a dinner/event?

October 26th (Labour Weekend) TBC Rugby World Cup Semi-Final 9:30pm

Any volunteers to host a dinner/event?

Murray and Sarah, are you guys keen to run a quiz nite again??? Pretty please :)

Throwing ideas out into the wind, does anyone know a hypnotist who might be keen to come and do a show at the club one night, or someone who could come along and get us line or square dancing? If you do then we want to hear from you!!!

For all you newbies out there... don't be shy... get a group of 4 or more to share the load and cook up a storm. Do you have an amazing signature dish... Italian, Thai, Mexican, Japanese that you would like to share. Themed evenings can be lots of fun and most members get into the spirit of things and like to dress up. Please contact Constance on +64 211 237 577 or onepurplefish@gmail.com and she can give you the lowdown on how it all works.

Wainuiomata Water Collection Area Walk – February 2019

The water collection area behind Wainuiomata has been used for water supply since 1880 and around 1927 was closed to the public. As water treatment methods have improved over time, access became possible and can be granted on special request. When I made my request in the depths of winter in 2018 I managed to select the coldest day in February 2019. I thought Waitangi day would be a safe choice, actually it was almost my only choice as I had to avoid overlapping with other groups and users.

The day dawned with grey skies, passing showers and a cool wind. I was surprised to see 15 brave souls turn up at the public car park, I thought I would be on my own. After a bit of chatting it was time to marshal the cars into a line and get everyone through the traffic barrier. We were obliged to drive slowly through the pedestrian area to reach the first locked gate. Beyond this gate there is no regular public access and we would be on our own.

I had to give a health and safety briefing, at the last car park, as the whole area is a work place for Wellington Water and as it is a water collection, area there are some requirements regarding human waste.

We were ready to start walking, a few were brave enough for full club uniform. We passed through the second locked gate and looked at a decommissioned dam, it has a big piece cut out of it, due to it being an earthquake risk. A little further on is a small power station, water is collected from the Orongorongo River and is gravity fed through a tunnel to the power station before going to the nearby water treatment plant. Sufficient power is generated to run the whole plant with some to spare.

Crossing a small creek provided a challenge to keeping dry feet, most made it ok, before following a gravel road alongside the Wainuiomata River. Some feasted on the blackberries growing largely untouched beside the road. On reaching a water intake (it was all fenced off) it was time to take a break and enjoy the occasional moment of sun. We then turned around and followed a sealed road toward George Creek and into some very good lowland forest. The trees towered over us, almost touching the clouds (which were not far above). Looking down revealed a carpet of ferns and small plants.

At the end of the road is the entrance to the tunnel to the Wainuiomata River. It was completed in 1924 and the pipe within supplies water to Lower Hutt and Wellington, there is also a narrow gauge railway for transporting people through the tunnel. It was also a good spot for lunch, unfortunately the rain showers made some of the sandwiches soggy.

Going back down the road we took a shortcut across a bridge and as the day had warmed up slightly, everyone donned club uniform for a short while. The water collection area is also an ecological reserve and all vehicles that enter beyond the car park must have the underside and tyres thoroughly cleaned. I brandished a high pressure water hose in a threatening fashion, but everyone was already a bit wet, so nobody took any notice.

We returned through the second locked gate, after I remembered the combination, to the car park. It was a great walk, shame about the weather, we would have stayed longer if it was warmer. I marshalled the cars back through the first locked gate, and kind of lost count, I am sure everyone made it out.

Patrick.